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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APR 21 2005

Applicants: Egashira *et al.***Conf. No.:** 3272**Serial No.:** 09/977,634**Art Unit:** 3625**Filing Date:** 10/15/2001**Examiner:** Pond, Robert M.**Title:** METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
COMMODITY SALES**Docket No.:** JP920000319US1
(IBMR-0108)Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

This paper is being filed in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination dated April 21, 2005. Please enter the following amendments prior to the first examination on the merits:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.